

Partner Buys Out Villa De La Paix

The Villa de la Paix restaurant at 116 Sixth St. has been sold to Harry Dellis, a partner for the past three years.

Dellis bought the interest of Mrs. Josephine Bargiacchi.

Mrs. Bargiacchi's son, Dewey, who was active in the restaurant's management, said today his mother plans a tour of Europe.

THE APR 23 1955

Woman Saves Clerk Hides Cafe Cash In Holdup

Chance and a full skirt saved nearly \$4,000 for the Villa de la Paix restaurant when two gunmen robbed an assistant bookkeeper of about \$1,000.

The bandits climbed up side stairs to a second-floor office yesterday and carried out the daylight holdup directly above a banquet room where 70 winery executives were meeting. Twenty employees and a handful of bar patrons also were downstairs in the restaurant at 116 Sixth St. during the robbery.

The gunmen arrived and departed two hours before two wedding receptions, with 245 persons, got under way.

Mrs. Mona Lockrem, 47, the assistant bookkeeper, was the victim of the holdup. It was by chance, she said, that two canvas bank bags containing \$3,778 were on the floor under her chair when the robbery occurred, instead of on a desk. Police said it was her quick thinking in covering the bags with her full skirt that saved the money.

Mrs. Lockrem, a grandmother, of 11024 Novelda Drive, was the only one in the small office. On her desk was one cash box with \$187, another with \$224, and about \$600 loose on the desk. She was preparing change for weekend business of the restaurant.

On the floor, beneath the swivel chair on which she was seated, were the two canvas bags: One contained \$1,778 which was scheduled for bank deposit; and the other, nearly \$2,000 which also was to be distributed downstairs.

Mrs. Lockrem said she opened the office door without rising in answer to a knock. A man with a brown leather briefcase asked to see the manager.

"I told him the managers were all downstairs," Mrs. Lockrem said. "I thought he meant the managers of the restaurant, but he said 'I mean the manager of the apartments'." There are apartments on the second floor.

Another man, she said, pushed his way in beside the first, put his right hand under his coat as if he had a gun and announced, "This is a stickup."

Mrs. Lockrem added: "I was so surprised I told him, 'you're kidding.' But he said, 'I'm not kidding,' and when I looked at his eyes I could see that he wasn't."

At the order of the men, Mrs.

Continued Page 2, Col. 6

acting president.
Joseph A. Danysh, will serve as
administrator at the college, Jo-
he said.
Walter said the present ad-
-ministrator at the college, Jo-

\$4,000 From Holdup of Cafe

Lockrem emptied the contents of the two cash boxes on the desk, excepting rolls of coins. They put the money in the briefcase.

The victim said the men "were awfully nice the whole time."

"One of them said, 'Just take it easy, and I'll tie you very loosely.' They were nice, but when they told me to turn around to tie me, I thought sure they were going to slug me.

"I said, 'don't hit me on the head,' and one of them said, 'we won't. Just sit quiet.'"

They tied Mrs. Lockrem's hands loosely behind her back with a length of brown sash cord which they brought. She said they told her to give them five minutes, and walked down the stairs.

Mrs. Lockrem, freeing herself quickly, pressed a buzzer on the desk connecting her telephone with one in the kitchen. The call was answered by chef Andre Martini, 65, of 407 Dutton Ave., San Leandro.

Martini was followed up the stairs by Mrs. Alta Davis, 29, of 8195 Meadowbrook Ave., Hayward, a waitress, who called police.

Police Inspector Roy Earp said the holdup men apparently

were familiar with Mrs. Lockrem's movements.

Due at the restaurant at 2 p.m. were 200 guests to attend the wedding reception of Mills College graduate Miss Frances Kagawa and Edwin T. Kurata, both of Hawaii; and 45 guests to attend the reception of Joanne Arecco and Lum Parenti, both of Oakland.

Witnesses said the holdup pair fled in a light blue Ford or Oldsmobile sedan, westbound on Sixth St. Police alerted the Bay Bridge toll plaza but the suspects were not found.

In December, 1955, two thugs robbed the Villa of approximately \$8,000 in cash.

Swank Cafe Robbed Here; Woman Tied

TR E JUN 8 - 1957

Villa de la Paix

Bookkeeper Held Up

By 2 Men, Cash Taken

Two men held up a bookkeeper of the fashionable Villa de la Paix restaurant today at 11:30 a.m. and escaped with her cash without disturbing more than 100 persons downstairs.

The holdup took place as some 100 persons gathered to attend a wine company meeting in the Chantilly Room and as waiters and cooks prepared for two wedding receptions.

Mrs. Mona Lockrem, the assistant bookkeeper, was alone in the second floor office, preparing change for the bar and restaurant when the two men entered demanding the cash, and enforcing their order by acting as if they were armed.

AMOUNT IN DOUBT

Joe Anzivino, one of the owners, said it was not immediately determined how much money the bandits took but estimated "it was not as much as in our only previous holdup over the Christmas weekend of 1955 when more than \$8,000 was taken."

Mrs. Lockrem said she heard a knock on her office door and a man asked how to find the manager of the adjoining apartments, also on the second floor.

She opened the door to direct the questioner, only to have the bandit and his accomplice force their way in. One told her:

"This is a stickup. Don't scream and we won't hurt you."

Mrs. Lockrem said she remained seated, concealing a bagful of money on the floor beneath her skirts. The bandits forced her to unlock two cash boxes which they cleaned out.

TIED HER HANDS

They tied her hands behind her back and left.

The restaurant is at 116 6th St. but the bandits used the entrance to the second floor which is on the Oak St. corner of the establishment.

Witnesses said they fled in a light blue Ford or Oldsmobile sedan westbound on Sixth St., headed toward Market.

They said there were three men in the car. One presumably had waited as the driver of the getaway car.

Villa Cafe

Up; \$8,000

ONE DEC 28 1955

A gunman held up the Villa de la Paix restaurant, 116 Sixth St., early today and fled with \$8,000 after slugging one of the owners.

He also took a watch and \$24 from Leo P. Koulas, 22, of 1494-33rd Ave., San Francisco, after knocking him unconscious and binding him with adhesive tape.

Koulas told Police Inspectors Jack Richardson and Roy Earp that his assailant stuck a gun in his back as he was entering an upstairs office to count the night's receipts.

After the man struck him with the gun, Koulas said, he agreed to open the safe.

Koulas told police the man, who was about 30 years old and appeared to have a speech defect, apparently entered through a door opening on Sixth St. and hid in a hallway or furnace room until the restaurant closed.

Quality Food Draws Diners to Villa de la Paix

WED AUG 1 1 1953

In the history of restaurant life there are few places that ever turned out the amount of food per meal—or the huge number of meals—as has Villa de la Paix since the recent reopening at Sixth and Oak Streets.

The Villa parking lot is a full square block. Many times, motorists arriving for lunch or dinner must park in the streets because the lot is full.

This is a tribute to Josephine Bargiacchi and her son, Dewey, who made their reputation at Oakland's North Pole; the Villa Chartier on the peninsula, and the old Villa de la Paix when it was at Sixth and Alice before the

Villa De La Paix to Be Moved

The Villa de la Paix, Oakland restaurant whose present location is in the route of the Eastshore Freeway through the central district, will be moved shortly to a new site at Sixth and Oak Streets, at the side of the super-highway.

This was revealed here today with the announcement that the

restaurant firm has purchased seven adjoining lots on the northwest corner of Sixth and Oak from Mrs. Emma Baer. Purchase price was \$40,000.

The transaction was negotiated by the Valva Realty Company and the George G. Block Company. Spokesmen for the real estate firm said the restaurant building will be moved from its

Oakland Tribune, Wednesday

present site at Sixth and Alice Streets to the new location.

The entire block-wide strip between Fifth and Sixth Streets from Fallon Street to Broadway has been purchased by the State Division of Highways as eventual route of the Freeway through the downtown district.

TRIB D SEP 13 1950

THIS DEC 30 1950

One of America's most unusual restaurants is located right here in Oakland. Not to play guessing games—but this spot is loaded with at least \$100,000 worth of lamps, figurines, oil paintings, marble and bronze statues, fancy love-seats and gold leaf framed mirrors.

Naturally, you know—Villa De La Paix.

Last Tuesday night I enjoyed a mess of scollops there, along with a pot of onion soup and a bleu-cheese French dressing'd salad. All around me were happy diners loading up on the abounding tables, filled of Villa relishes, tidbits, snacks and hors d'oeuvres. Crab legs and other temptations were liberally piled on. Impressive to the point of goggle-eying first-timers. You need a spare stomach to really do justice to the Villa feast.

YOUR FAVORITES

Frank Castle plays the organ in a grand manner. An artist from away back who knows how to program a parade of melodies that are bound to include just that certain number that makes you wonder if maybe Frank might not be picking your memory box.

Macrocosmic — that's a word some press agent dug up to describe Josephine Bargiacchi's fabulous place of business. I shouldn't omit her son Dewey's name either—because he figures as Mr. Big in this, the biggest restaurant operation, I guess, in this neck of the dining-out-woods.

Located in the "wrong" end of town (next to the Alameda tube) the Villa by logical deduction should really do no business at all. And yet—the whooze-who of the business and social world flock here noon and night; some six or seven hundred cash patrons every 24 hours.

Popular and known to thousands of the cafe crowd are the three bottle'n-stopper-boys: Louie

Carasco (a dimrod), Bill Lyons (dapper, ladies' favorite) and Angello Galli (the big wheel). They serve three martinis to one of anything else, says Lou. The cucumber is the after-dinner-drink.

Josephine started her first restaurant in SF in '14. She made a sensational success of the Villa Chartier on the Peninsula. Her recent travels have taken her to Europe, Cuba, Mexico and the Southern States of our U.S.A. She has a head filled with ideas for the new Villa that will be built a few blocks away in a year or so. The freeway goes through the present Villa site sooner or later.

Dewey has three horses at Santa Anita. Gets embarrassed when you speak of them—couldn't imagine why (if I hadn't once placed a small wager on one named Blenford, or was it Long Lad?).

IRENE'S FOREST

How cute waitress Irene Polk ever keeps the greenery alive and glowing in the nitery atmosphere—I'll never know. Green thumb, Irene?

If you want to start a conversation with Dewey and maybe wind up having him treat you to a tiddelly or two—ask him about Vicky, Terry, and Frankie (ages 5, 4 and 3). That starts it—complete with pictures.

Mitch Hoffman's name adds the final highlight of this little yarn. He happens to be Mr. Villa to a lot of patient souls who don't seem to mind waiting hours for a table as long as the martinis (or their legs) hold out. Mitch is the maitre-dee—the head seater-downer and Leslie-fashion-plate.